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First Closed-Loop Organics Waste Management System Moves Forward

Iris Solutions has been selected by the city of Surrey to build the Surrey Biofuels Processing Facility project in Canada.

According to the city, once the biofuel processing facility is operational, Surrey will be home to the first closed-loop fully-integrated organics waste management system in North America.

The facility will be designed to receive and process 115,000 metric tons of organic waste annually. When completed, the facility will be the largest of its kind in Canada with a capacity to process 100 percent of the city's organic waste, along with commercial organic waste, helping Metro Vancouver achieve its regional 70 percent waste diversion target.

The facility will convert kitchen waste and yard waste collected at curbside into renewable natural gas that will fuel the city's natural gas waste collection trucks. The facility will also produce a compost product that will be suitable for landscaping and agricultural applications.

The city expects to finalize a fixed price, performance-based agreement with Iris Solutions in early 2015 to design, build, partially finance, maintain and operate the project, with design-build activities getting underway shortly thereafter. The facility will be operational by late 2016.

The government of Canada will contribute 25 percent of the capital costs through its P3 Canada Fund.

This project is part of Surrey's Rethink Waste program launched in October 2012, which includes curbside organics collection and a fleet of compressed natural gas waste collection trucks. The Rethink Waste program has already led to an over 40 percent reduction in Surrey's residential garbage sent to the landfill.

Last month Novozymes launched what it says is the first commercially available enzymatic solution to make biodiesel from waste oils.

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